

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2017 VOLUME 13 ISSUE 1

President's Letter

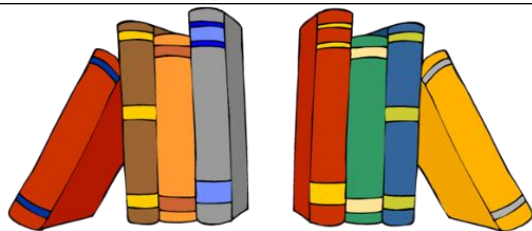
Ken Sosnowski, President

The goal of FOSL is to provide support for the Library. This support can be in many and varied forms. We provide support for the summer reading programs and for David Butler's STEM programs. This winter, guided by the new Children's Librarian, Emily Metrock, we even upgraded much of the children's area with a new computer, a new table and even a new rug for the children to sit on.

You might ask: How do we fund these items?

A good question! Of course, the annual Book Sale is the primary source of funds. This year we cleared over \$7000, our highest ever. Much of the increase was due to the Friday evening public sale. (Our thanks to the Library staff for making that possible.) The second largest source of funds is the fees we receive from the use of the printer. FOSL rents the printer and associated software and receives the page charges. This brought in over \$4000 this past year. A much smaller income comes from the sale of books which had been pulled from the shelves. It may not be much, but every bit helps. Then there are direct donations and even bequests. It is humbling to watch our members dive into the thousands of donated books, preparing them for sale and to realize that none of them will gain a cent from this effort.

I do wish that we earned enough to expand the library or even enough to speed repair of the leaking roof (no other library has a waterfall and koi pond on rainy days), but it is reassuring to know that the City of Salem is preparing to replace the roof and is drawing long-range plans for a new library. As President, my thanks go out to both the volunteers and to the many who donated their books. It is obvious that the Salem Library is a much loved institution. ♦



Election of Officers

By the Editor

At the meeting on January 8, 2017, your nominating committee offered the following slate of officers to lead the Friends in 2017:

Ken Sosnowski, President

John Spruhan, Vice President

Susan Ahalt, Secretary

Joyce Foster, Treasurer

Members of the Board of Directors serve three year terms. The Board was elected in 2014. The nominating committee offered the following slate of members to serve in 2017-2019.

Sara Ahalt

Gail Evans

Helen Robertson

Betty Waldron

Officers and Board members were elected by acclamation.

Charlie Draper also serves on the board as the recent past president. ♦

2016 BOOK SALE REPORT

Extracted, with edits, from Ken Sosnowski's after-action report of a debriefing held on September 18th, 2016

Once again, a dedicated group of literati managed to pull off a successful book sale. The September 2016 Book Sale grossed \$8262.41 and netted \$7380.48 after expenses. Twenty eight FOSL members donated 887 hours of volunteer labor to make this happen.

As August approached, the total volume of books donated was low when compared to recent years. However, a sudden surge of donations and a sizable volume of books pulled from the library shelves sent the total to a new high.

Last year, we decided that we had outgrown the Community Room so had spread into the library proper. This year we again increased the area used for our sale. We purchased additional tables and loaded them with books. (Cont. Page 2)

Troop 352

By Joyce Foster

Boy Scout Troop 352, Locust Grove UMC, Salem, VA.

FOSL is grateful to the scouts, their leaders and parents for moving thousands of books from our off-site storage to the library on Aug. 20, 2016. This effort was so important to us that we would like to recognize each of those who helped.

Venture Scout:
Ashlynn Hubert

Scouts:
Derrick Hall
Parker Hall
Andy Hubert
Nicholas Jenkins
Gabriel Simmons
Garrett Williams

Scout Leaders/Parents:

David Foster
Shannon Hall
Doug Hubert
Lisa Hubert
Mark Hughes
Paul Jenkins
David Simmons

FOSL members who participated
Charles Draper
Joyce Foster
Gail MacFarland
Ken Sosnowski



(From Page 1) Due to the valiant work of Troop 352 of the Fort Lewis Boy Scouts, all of the books and tables were moved from the off-site storage area to the library in only a few hours. (See Troop 352 this page.)

The next 3 weeks were spent in a frantic effort to unpack, sort and display at least 10,000 books. As in last year, the Children's and Audio-Video sections occupied the center area of the Library, while older fiction, business and religion were near the front door. One change was that we were able to have three cashiers, two with credit card capability.

The biggest change instituted this year, was extending the public sale into Friday night. We grossed over \$2000 during Friday's public sale. Friday morning's Member's Sale was also successful and the lunch was enjoyed by all. Several new members joined, including a few dealers (a group that had been vanishing). Saturday weather was beautiful and the crowd was steady all day. Sunday opened with the usual waiting line and numerous bags and boxes were sold. One change for Sunday, was directing all purchases to the front door where the cashier was stationed.

Once again, Cheryl Price created an attractive display in the glass case. This time, the topic was the Civil War. During the weekend, we sold over half of the displayed books. Interest continued and most of the remaining books were sold later in the week.

Ann Tripp suggested that we utilize the new iPad credit system. The iPads worked smoothly and everyone agreed that they were a big improvement over the Square we used last year. They will be used by the Library staff to accept payment for the continuous sale of books during the year.

As always, we received tremendous support from the Library staff. It ranged from ideas for table placement to back-breaking labor moving books and tables. They smiled cheerfully as we destroyed the pensive quiet one normally associates with a library. Thanks to everyone. ♦



All the books are in the meeting room. Dave Foster contemplates the next three weeks of sorting, cataloging, pricing, etc.

Ann's Notes: Ann Tripp, Director of the Salem Public Library

FOSLs fund furnishings and computer for children's area

At the October 9th FOSL meeting, the membership voted to fund several items for the Salem Public Library children's department. These items included a new table for the computer stations, new chairs throughout the children's area, a new AWE (early literacy) computer, and a large, colorful rug for Storytime's to create a friendly and warm atmosphere in our meeting room. All of these items are fantastic new additions for the children and families who visit our library: the chairs are colorful and easily wiped down to clean, the table is sturdy, the new AWE station is touchscreen and has engaging and educational games, and the Storytime rug really defines the Storytime area within our large meeting room. Thank you to our FOSLs for helping make our children's area and programming wonderful!

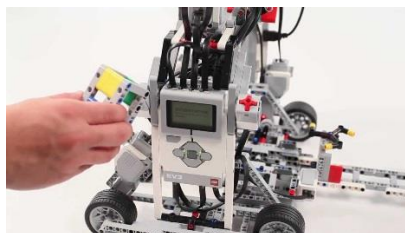


Storytime with the Roanoke Railway
Dawgs Hockey Team

Storytime rug



Storytime with Belle, with 125 attendees! (played by Ashby Garst)



LEGO Mindstorms EV3: A new way to learn!

Thanks to the approval of the FOSLs at the October 9th meeting, David Butler, teen librarian, has added a new

program for teenagers at the Salem Public Library. Currently meeting on the third Monday of each month at 6:30pm, the Teen Tech Makerspace features the Lego Mindstorms EV3 robotics and coding kits purchased by the FOSLs. With these kits, teens build a robot, then code the robot using math, logic, and problem-solving skills. We hope to build this program with additional kits to allow for more involvement, and we also plan to expand the number of meetings to increase the number of teens who can participate in this awesome program.

New library reading area furnishings, funded by the estate of Mr. Nicholas G. Economy

The library is now home to new chairs and end tables in our reading room. The chairs were purchased through Harris Office Furniture. Several of the chairs feature a swinging laptop arm to allow patrons to rest a laptop, book, or something else on the small swinging table. The end tables feature integrated charging outlets, which allow patrons to easily and safely charge their mobile devices. They are also all water resistant and are easily cleaned with a bleach solution.



Rotary Club of Salem's Little Free Libraries

The Rotary Club of Salem has installed a dozen Little Free Libraries around Salem! Pictured below is the Little Free Library painted by Pam Ogden, local artist, and placed in front of our library in honor of Janis Augustine, former director of the Salem Public Library. Other Little Free Libraries in Salem are on the Greenway, at each of the elementary schools, and at several parks around town. Feel free to "take a book, leave a book"!

Officers of the Friends of the Salem Library:

President: Ken Sosnowski
Vice President: John Spruhan
Secretary: Susan Ahalt
Treasurer: Joyce Foster

Board of Directors:

Sara Ahalt, Chairman Charles Draper
Gale Evans Betty Waldron
Helen Robertson

Standing Committees:

Book Sale: Ken Sosnowski
Newsletter Editor: Charlie Draper 387-9824
Historian Pat Draper

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Internet:

www.salemlibrary.info/Community/FriendsoftheLibrary.aspx

Membership dues (other than Life) are payable **January 1 of each year. Consult your mailing label.** If the date shown is **prior to 2017**, please renew your membership. You may pay by check (payable to FOSL) at the Library desk, by mail, or at the Member's Sale.

Important Dates in 2017

FOSL holds four regular meetings each year. They are on the 2nd Sunday of the scheduled month starting at 2PM and last for approximately one hour. Members are encouraged to attend and contribute to regular business meetings and to volunteer to help make activities such as the Book Sale a success.

- **March 12:** Regular meeting
(Note: Daylight Savings begins today.)
- **March 12:** Board meeting after regular meeting
- **May 14:** Children's Art Show and reception
- **July 9:** Regular meeting
- **Book Sale Preparation starts in August. Date TBD.**
- **Weekend of September 9: FOSL Book Sale.** Exact schedule TBD. (Sept 9 is Olde Salem Days)
- **October 8:** Regular meeting

Membership Form: Dues (other than life) are on an annual basis and are payable January 1 of each year. Your dues help support the library.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Type: Please indicate type of membership below with an X.

____ Individual (\$10) ____ Family (\$15) ____ Sustaining (\$25) ____ Life (\$75)